ARIA
AUGMENTING THE RECEPTION OF MUSIC THROUGH INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS & ARCHIVES

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ARIA: Augmenting the Reception of music through Innovative solutions and Archives

The project aims to research, design and develop innovative digital experiences that promote engagement with a music archive.

Case study: The archive of Nikos Skalkotas

Nikos Skalkottas (1904 –1949) was a Greek prolific classical music composer who lived and worked in Athens and Berlin.
The SFMM archive preserves a wide collection of material on the composer, including photos, letters, music sheets, etc.
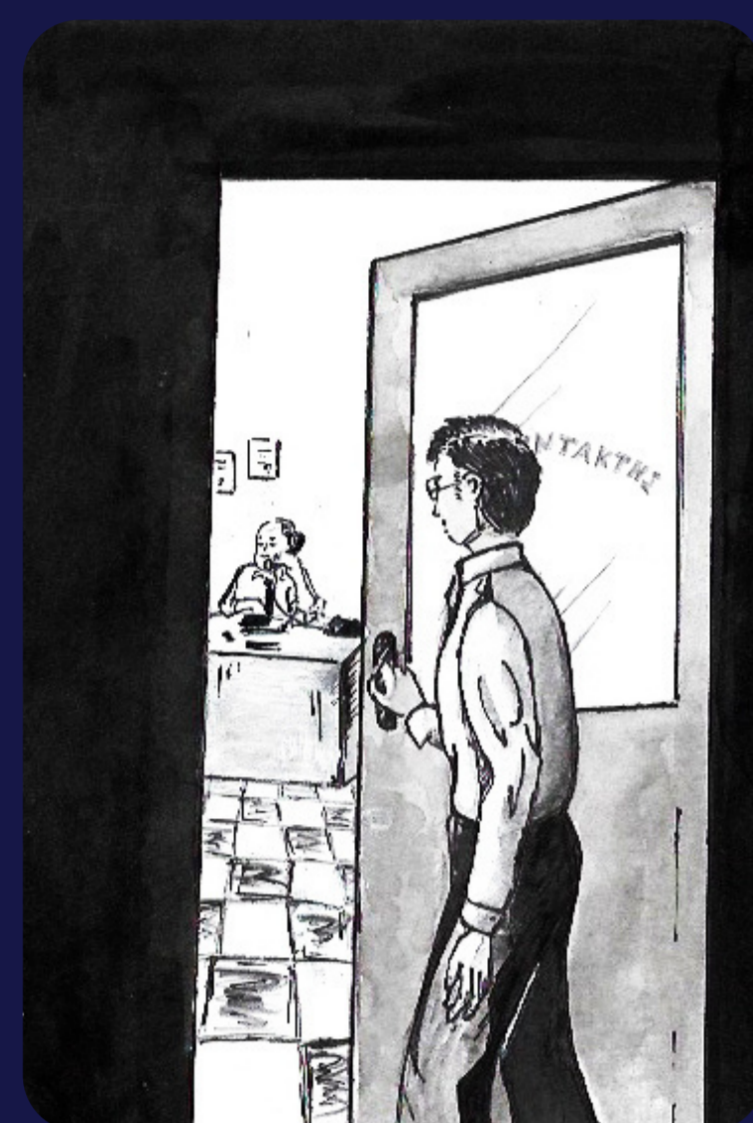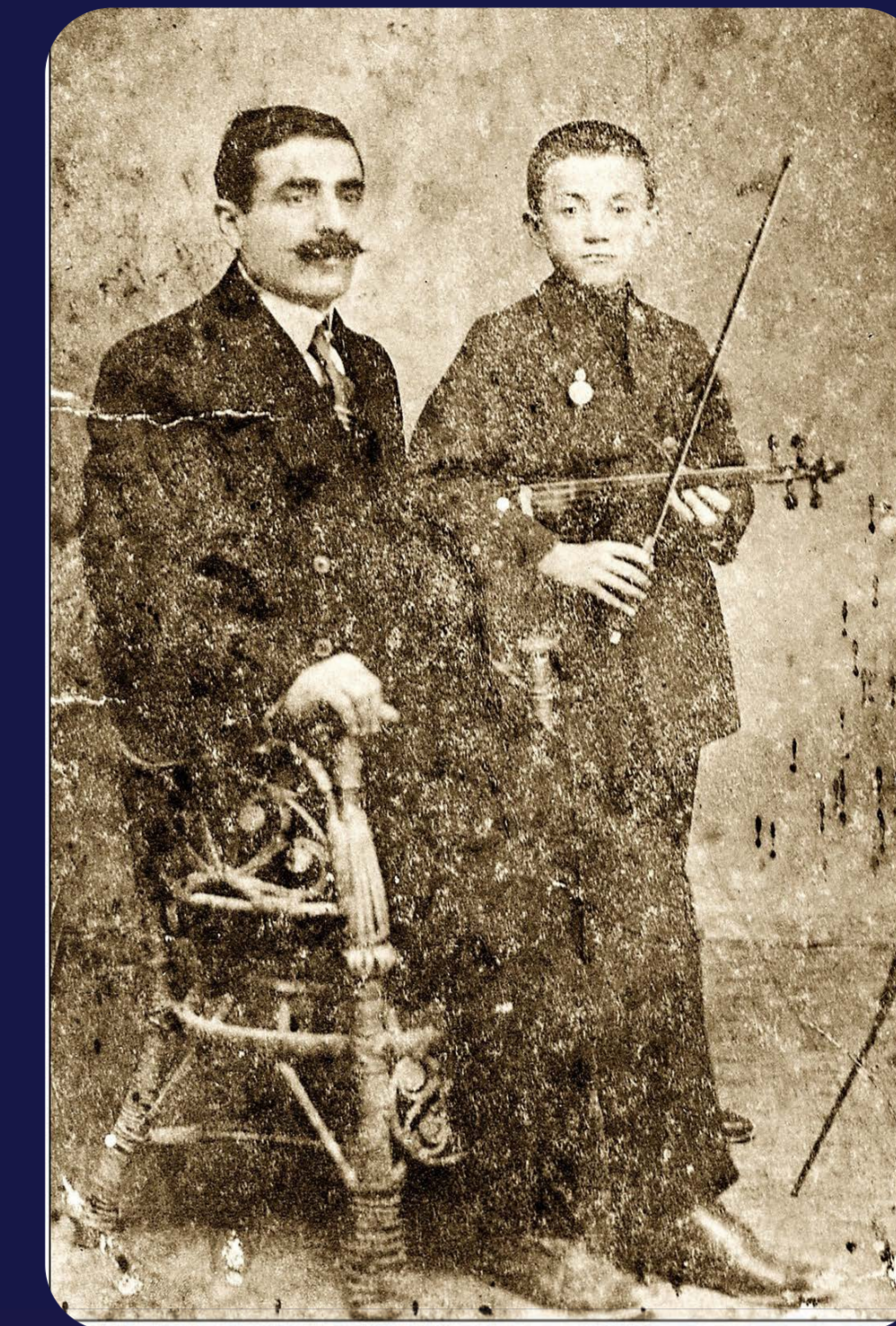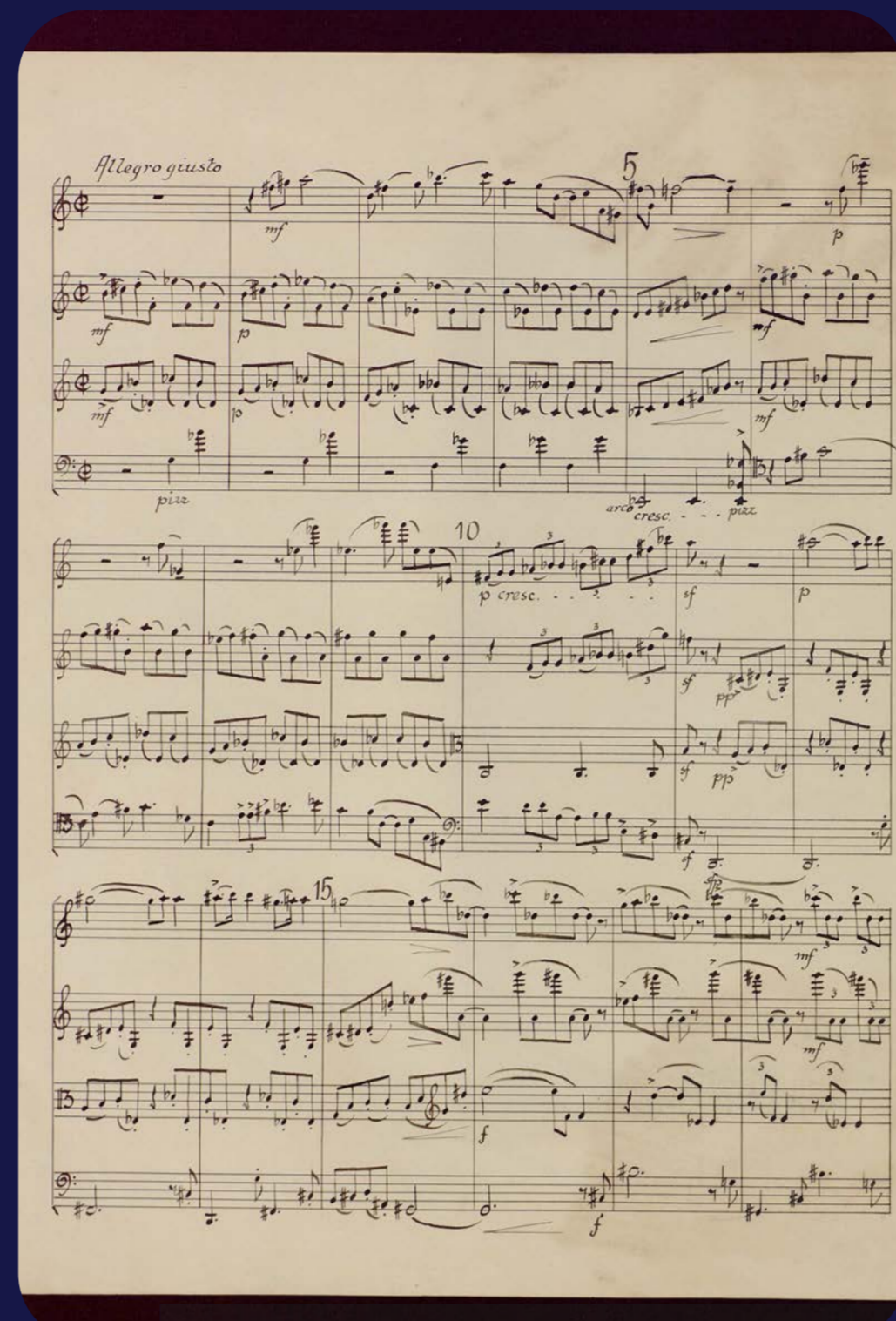
13 Interviews - A journey in search of Nikos Skalkotas

You follow the journalist Andreas Zeppos in his journey to discover the professional and personal life of Nikos Skalkotas. Zeppos travels in Chalkida, Athens and Berlin, all places where Skalkotas lived and worked, and interviews real and fictional people, reconstructing the portrait of the composer and the era that shaped not only his compositions and works, but also his character.
The story is illustrated in the style of a "noir" graphic novel and the archival material offers a more personal and direct view to the composer's life.

Historical empathy: the experience objective

The model of historical empathy, inspired by history education includes:
- **historical contextualization** - the aspect of learning facts about the past in their wider context
- **perspective taking** - interpreting history from the perspective of past people, avoiding bias
- **affective connection** - understanding the feelings, values and worldview of past people.

Historical Contextualization

Affective Connection to the Past

Historical Perspective Taking

Historical Empathy

Affective Connection

Empathy

Perspective Taking
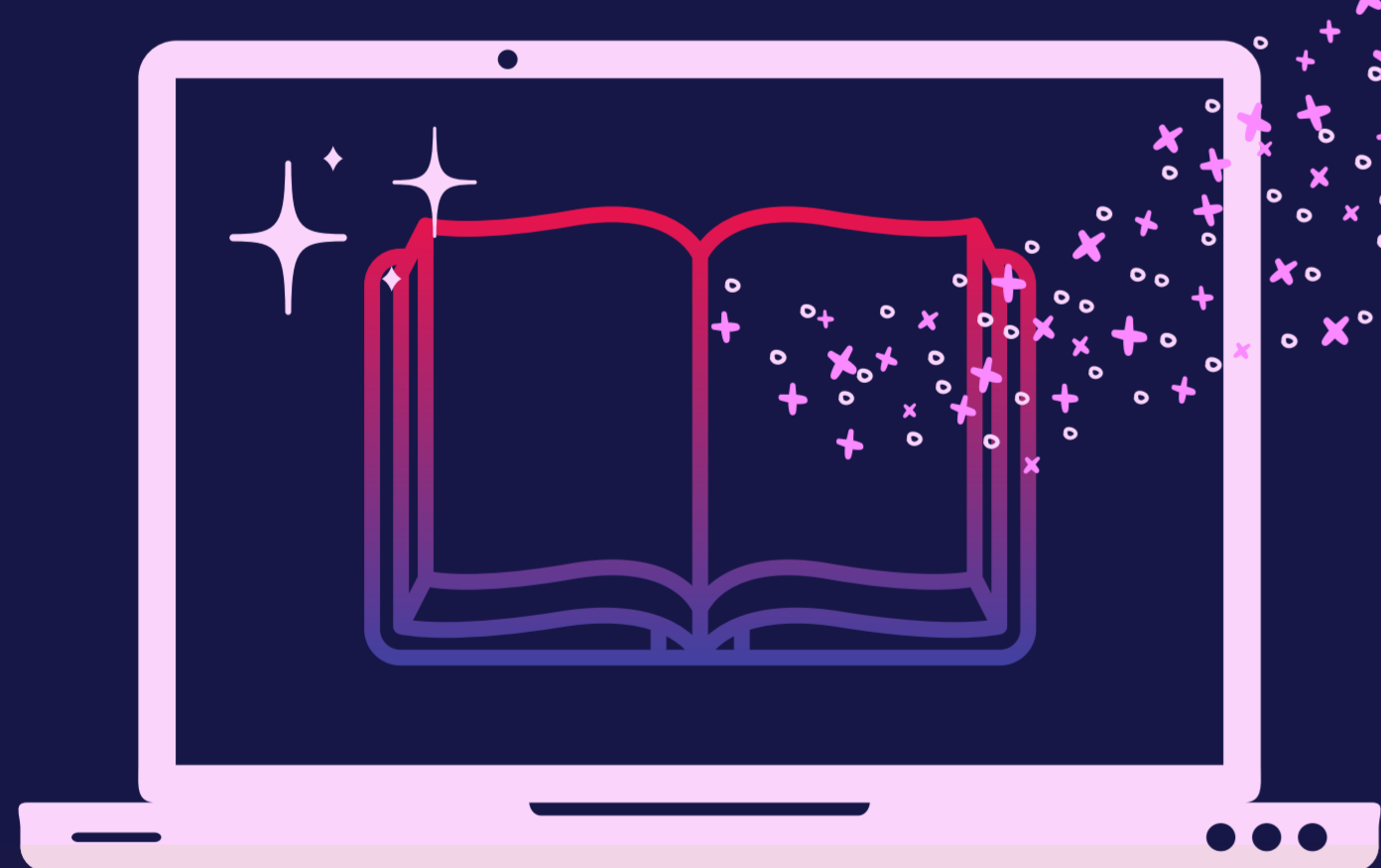
Digital storytelling for engagement

Digital storytelling is an effective method to support interpretation, engagement, and reflection about the past, using both traditional and digital media-based resources.

Social interaction for joint meaning making

Social interaction and dialogue may support joint reflection and meaning making, promoting thus the perspective taking aspect of historical empathy. Coupled with digital storytelling, it establishes a closer, more affective view of the people of the past and a deeper understanding of the historical context.

An experience combining storytelling and dialogue

An experience for a small group (2 to 5) of visitors. It is divided in four main sections following the periods of the life of the composer. Each section alternates parts where the visitors view the interviews as well as the archival material individually, with sections where they are prompted to engage in joint reflection through dialogue-based activities.